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ATTORNEY'S MARK SHEET NUMBER  
004578.1306

PATENT APPLICATION  
10/693,562

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Byron Elliott Short, Jr. et al.  
Serial No.: 10/693,562  
Filing Date: October 24, 2003  
Group Art Unit: Unknown  
Title: Method and Apparatus for  
Controlling Temperature  
Gradients Within a Structure  
Being Cooled

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence, with enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Name May A. [Signature]

Date: 12-28-04

REQUEST FOR STATUS

Applicant respectfully inquires about the status of the above-identified patent application. Applicant received a Filing Receipt dated January 29, 2004. To date, however, Applicant has not received any communication on the merits. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully inquires about the status

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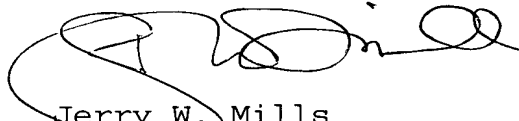
of the present application, and in particular requests notice of when the first Office Action on the merits will be issued.

REMARKS

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.702(a)(1), it has been over fourteen months since the filing date of this Application and a Notification under either 35 U.S.C. §§ 132 or 151 has not been received. Thus, a period of adjustment of patent term due to examination delay is accruing in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(a)(1).

If there are any matters that can be cleared up through a telephone conversation, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicant



Jerry W. Mills  
Reg. No. 23,005

December 28, 2004

**CUSTOMER NUMBER: 05073**

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